THE ACCEPTANCE OF A TRUST.

M. KATHARINE BENNETT.

Echoes of the Chicago Conference of November, 1915, are being heard from time to time, and the hearty spirit of cooperation that was developed by that Conference is already found to be simplifying the work of the women's missionary organizations in the church. One definite outcome of the Conference has been as outstanding as it was unexpected.

For many years the women of the church have carried on their missionary service through five Woman's Foreign Missionary Boards with headquarters at New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, St. Louis and San Francisco: one joint Home and Foreign Mission Board with headquarters at Portland, Oregon, and the Woman's Board of Home Missions operating throughout the United States except in the States of Idaho, Oregon and Washington, the territory of the Woman's North Pacific Presbyterian Board of Missions- the one joint Board.

The purpose of the Conference was a unification of methods of approach from Board offices to the societies but it did not seek to disturb the division of territory among the Boards not to alter in any way existing conditions at headquarters. Such matters were not within the scope of the Conference.

Four delegates from the North Pacific Board listened keenly and interestedly to the discussions at Chicago and gave valuable help in many ways; they queried and found answers and then they went back across the continent to report. Not many weeks later there came from that Board to the Woman's Board of Home Missions at New York, an offer to turn over to the latter Board the full care of Home Mission interests in the three states of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, the Board of the North Pacific thus becoming a Foreign Mission Board similar to the other five Woman'

Boards of the church and the Woman's Home Mission Board becoming really national in its scope.

Such an offer, to transfer at the most successful period of its history one half of its work to another Board, was an act of rare generosity and deep Christian devotion. The recognition by the women of the North Pacific Board that absolute unity of operation could be secured only by the divestment by their Board of the Home Mission part of its work was followed by the immediate sacrifice on their part. It was not a lessening of interest- rather it was the statesmanlike recognition of a ~~needed~~ necessary sacrifice to secure a future good.

As the Woman's Board of Home Missions accepts this new trust thus committed to it it realizes that it thus enters upon the fruit of the labors of many years and; it makes glad and full acknowledgement of the splendid spirit of those women of the Western Board who have had the courage and generosity to take this step, it pledges its utmost endeavor to sustain and increase the work so well begun, and it bears willing testimony to the great spirit of loving and cooperative service that has animated them. May both those who give and those who receive be blessed in the service and may that great North west territory be won to the service of Him who makes life full and rich!

WOMAN'S NORTH PACIFIC PRESBYTERIAN
BOARD OF MISSIONS
454 ALDER STREET
PORTLAND, ORE.

Janry 19, 1916.

Mrs F. S. Bennett,
President, Woman's Bd. of Home Missions,
New York City.

My dear Mrs Bennett: —

The echoes of the Joint Conference have not yet died away although it is now two months since we met and struggled with problems old and new. I learned many things at the Conference and tried to assimilate as much as possible for I knew that things that were illuminating and enlightening to me would be equally so to those who had not had the privilege of attending.

One of the things that weighed most heavily upon me was the fact that our double form of organization, which had always seemed ideal to me,

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BOARD OF MISSIONS
454 ALDER STREET
PORTLAND, ORE.

appeared to be a stumbling block to you in the smooth working out of the missionary problem. The more I thought of it, the more undesirable it seemed in view of the fact that all the rest of the United States was working along a slightly different line, although all were headed for the same goal. To make a long story short, I communicated some of my views to the Executive Committee of our Board and found that some members had had similar convictions but that the various recommendations of the Joint Conference forced the difficulties of the situation more plainly before them. There was a universal feeling that we had no desire to cripple the real work of missions by insisting on our particular form of organization, though it had seemed to work well with us, and we felt that we had no right to ask the Woman's Board of Home Missions to be continually making exceptions in our favor. Then, being a Board, we objected to being treated as a synod, as the Woman's Board of Home Missions naturally treated us because of their

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BOARD OF MISSIONS
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form of organization. There was certainly no room in the United States for two Woman's Boards of Home Missions and that was what was practically the situation. A committee was appointed to consider the matter and I was made chairman of that committee. There was a frank and free expression of opinion and the findings of that committee were presented before the Executive Committee of the Board at a special meeting held yesterday, January 18, and the recommendations unanimously adopted. It was not an easy matter for many of our members to give up their long cherished ideal of one missionary Board for missions. Many of them had grown up with the idea and to feel that in future they would be part of a Board that was avowedly working only for foreign missions hurt pretty badly for this is home mission territory and will be for many years to come. But the situation seemed so clear to all of us and the conditions involved in the situation so radically wrong that

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PORTLAND, ORE.

prevale feelings were merged in favor of general good and those members were willing to say that the time had come for a change!

There is every desire on the part of our Board to co-operate most heartily with the Woman's Board of Home Missions. This is a big territory and we know that we are not covering it as we ought to and for the sake of the great missionary cause we want to see it covered. You have the organization, you have the machinery and if you wish to compass our territory we are willing to hand over to you the three states, Oregon, Washington and Idaho to organize them synodically for Home Missions and to develop in them, we hope, a strong home missionary spirit. By doing so, we, of course become a Foreign Board only but as our local societies are all organized as joint societies already, and our presbyterial societies are joint societies, too, our judgment is that

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they should remain unchanged except-that a treasurer for home missions must be added to our list of presbyterial officers. As a foreign board we would not wish at present to be organized synodically, so that the synodical organization would be for home missions only. You will readily see the reason for this! We have always worked well presbyterially and while our territory is large our population is small and to add a foreign synodical organization would be but complicating machinery. As a matter of fact, our foreign board would be really a synodical organization (combining three synods in one) to care for foreign missions as your synodical organizations would care for home missions.

We have no means of knowing how our constituency will view the change We have carefully drilled them to be joint but if this proposed arrangement on our part meets with your approval as a Board

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rest assured that the change will be put before them in the clearest and most enlightening way possible and it will be shown them that the movement is a development made necessary by the growth of the work. There is every disposition on our part to work as one with you, our only reasons for changing being to put no barriers to progress, to avoid friction and to help on the work of missions. We realize that there will be a few lions in the way and that the readjustment, if it comes, will mean hard work for all of us but things that come too easily and cost us nothing are worth little in the end.

I have written you at this length to put the facts before you as plainly as possible so that you would, in the beginning understand our position. We have been proud of our Board, proud of its founders, proud of its work. We felt for a long time that our course

WOMAN'S NORTH PACIFIC PRESBYTERIAN
BOARD OF MISSIONS
454 ALDER STREET
PORTLAND, ORE.

was right. Being convinced that a greater good would be accomplished by the change thus indicated we await your judgment on the matter.

Cordially yours,
(Committee) Katherine Y. Thaxter, Chairman
Mrs. Louise Bradley
Flora A. Good.
Carrie L. Hays.
← Agnes M. Geary
Alice M. Milligan

Mrs Geary was unable to be present at the reading of the letter but was one with us in our action. I wrote in her name as she was one of the members of the committee

K. Y. T.

Mrs B. A. Thaxter
994 Bryce ave.
Portland, Oregon.

Copy for Upham + Lewis -

WOMAN'S NORTH PACIFIC PRESBYTERIAN
BOARD OF MISSIONS
454 Alder Street
Portland, Ore.

Jan'y 19, 1916.

Mrs. F. S. Bennett,
President, Woman's Bd. of Home Missions,
New York City.

My dear Mrs. Bennett:-

The echoes of the Joint Conference have not yet died away although it is now two months since we met and struggled with problems old and new. I learned many things at the Conference and tried to assimilate as much as possible for I knew that things that were illuminating and enlightening to me would be equally so to those who had not had the privilege of attending.

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Cordially yours,

(Committee)

Katherine Y. Thaxter, Chairman
M. Louise Bradley
Flora A. Goss
Carrie L. Hays
Agnes M. Geary
Alice M. Milligan

Mrs. Geary was unable to be present at the reading of the letter but was one with us in our action. I wrote in her name as she was one of the members of the committee.

K. Y. T.

Mrs. B. A. Thaxter,
994 Bryce Ave., Portland, Oregon.

WOMAN'S NORTH PACIFIC
PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF MISSIONS
454 Alder Street,
Portland, Oregon.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Please read all of this to your society
and preserve for reference.

The President of the Woman's North Pacific Presbyterian Board of Missions, at the request of the Executive Committee of that body, issues a call for a special meeting of Board members to be held March 21st, 1916, to discuss and vote on an important matter of business that cannot be held over till the biennial meeting, April 1917.

The item of business to be voted upon is a recommendation from the Executive Committee that steps be immediately taken to hand over to the direct care of the Woman's Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, the work for Home Missions in our territory viz. the three states of Oregon, Washington and Idaho. To do this work it will organize synodical societies in these three states to which presbyterial societies will report home mission work and from which they will receive instructions in home mission work, instead of from the Woman's North Pacific Board of Missions as heretofore, the Woman's North Pacific Board thus becoming a Board for foreign missions only and directing as in the past all the work for foreign missions in our territory.

The reasons for this change have been very carefully considered by the Executive Committee and are here given for your information:

1. All parts of the United States are organized synodically for Home Missions and report directly to the Woman's Board of Home Missions, except the three states that constitute our territory. For the sake of uniformity it seems best that we fall in line.

2. The growth of the work demands that more workers be put in the field to help out the many small and isolated societies in our territory. The Woman's Board of Home Missions has the equipment, the machinery, and the secretaries to do this work. For the sake of efficiency it seems best that we should give the work into their hands.

The change would not affect local organizations in any way. They are all joint organizations and will pursue the same course under which they are organized, giving equal attention to both home and foreign missions. Presbyterial societies would be affected in only one particular. A treasurer to receive and remit home mission funds to the Woman's Board of Home Missions must be provided for as well as one to handle foreign mission funds which would be sent as before to the North Pacific Board.

Synodical societies would be formed where the Home Board sees fit to do so. For home mission work presbyterial officers would receive instructions from synodical officers who would receive it from headquarters, viz. the Woman's Board of Home Missions in New York City. For foreign mission work instructions would come as before from the North Pacific Board, through presbyterial officers, to local societies.

This proposed change has been initiated in the North Pacific Noard which for twenty-eight years has been a joint Board working for both Home and Foreign Missions. At the time of its organization joint work seemed the only feasible thing. The North Pacific Board still feels that missions is one cause. The change proposed denotes no division of interests; it is simply a division of executive responsibility. The Woman's Board of Home Missions fully agrees with the plan and is willing to accept the responsibility for the three states.

No other item of business will be transacted at this meeting. A majority vote will carry it. Members of the North Pacific Board are (1) the members of the Executive Committee (which includes the officers of the Board, chairman of each standing committee, and presidents of presbyterial societies); (2) Presbyterial officers; (3) life members; (4) honorary life members; (5) delegates. Each auxiliary society - Presbyterial, Woman's, Westminster Guild, Christian Endeavor, Juniors, and Bands are entitled to send two delegates to this meeting.

The meeting will be held March 21st, 1916, at 2:30 P. M. in the First Presbyterian Church, Portland, Oregon. If you intend to send delegates, please notify the undersigned.

(Mrs. D. A.) Katherine Y. Thaxter,

Recording Secretary,
994 Bryce Avenue,
Portland, Oregon.

Per File

January 28, 1916.

Mrs. B.A. Thaxter,
994 Bryce Avenue,
Portland, Oregon.

My dear Mrs. Thaxter:-

I wish much that face to face with you I might say all that is in my heart after reading your letter of January 19th: in cold writing it may not carry to you all I mean.

I say " I " advisedly for your letter did not reach me until after the Board meeting of Tuesday last and the women of the Board cannot share in its news until next Tuesday. I did, however, call the officers of the Board together and read it to them.

You are wonderful women! This that you have just done is one of the biggest possible things and one that not many would be willing to do in the royal, splendid way it has been done. I realize that this decision has not been an easy one; that even though academically convinced that it was the wiser course you still had to consider the cherishing sentiment and affection that have grown through years of service in the joint Woman's Board.

I can well believe that to some of you this step has seemed a loss in idealism for a gain in practical efficiency- if all the church Boards could obliterate the lines of distinction it would indeed be fine, but the time for that not having yet come it does seem to make for better service if the prevailing method shall be adopted by all.

The action of the women of the North Pacific Board by which they agree to reorganize as a Woman's Foreign Board, turning

over to the Woman's Board of Home Missions for cultivation the states of Washington, Oregon and Idaho brings to us a larger respon sibility: it carries with it a deep sense of our obligation to the women who, as officers and members of the North Pacific Board, have for years nurtured the territory in their care, and who offer to us not uncultivated soil, but three immense states organized locally and presbyterially. While it seems illogical to separate Home and Foreign Missions at headquarters and to approve joint organizations down the line most of us find ourselves in that position, and I am sure that no change will ever be suggested in the societies already organized, nor will there be any different status for new organizations- except that the Synodical Societies shall be for Home Missions only.

Official acceptance of the offer of the Woman's North Pacific Board of Missions will go to you after the meeting of the Woman's Board on February Ist, but because I am anxious that the proposed change shall take place with a minimum of difficulty and without loss to either Foreign or Home Missions I am going to add a few more personal words as to arrangements.

Will it be the desire of the North Pacific Board that the new relations shall begin with the new fiscal year, April Ist, '16?

That it will be our earnest desire to cooperate with you in every possible way and to make this change as easy for you as we may I am sure I need not say to this end I hope we may be able to

send one of our officers to Portland to consult with you at a time that may meet your wishes. It may be that at the same time she might attend some of the Presbyterial meetings and meet the officers of those. I do not know the dates of the Presbyterials in your territory however. We shall, of course, send no letters or appertainments into your territory until after final agreement with you on all matters.

Would it be possible for us to have half a dozen copies of your last Annual Report? We have only our file copies and will need some working ones.

Again let me add my word of personal appreciation of the fineness of the action taken by your Board, and my earnest desire that this may but draw us closer together in service. Royally you have offered - may we be big enough to take over your work and adequately continue on your fine foundations. Our gratitude goes to those women who so clearly seized the thought of the Chicago Conference and who have so well carried home that spirit to their co-workers.

Believe me, that I am, in humbleness of spirit and in loving spirit of service,

Faithfully yours,

1210 Idaho St
Boise Idaho
Feb. 4th 1916

My dear Mrs. Bennett:
Ever since the Chicago Conference it has been in my heart to express my thanks on paper, to you, for the pleasure and help I received from that gathering.
I have "echoed" the meetings where ever I have gone and I have not told how we voted — just how we talked and prayed
I have a letter from Miss Milligan. I think that the N. P. Bd will concur in the deliberations of the Chicago Conference

I am hoping that the very widest thing will be done for our Young people.
I was not in full sympathy with those recommendations, but we have much to learn, and I am hoping that a certain number of points gained, will give honorable mention in all standards of excellence. I believe in a high standard, but failure in one point should not mark failure in all.
I wanted to tell & to ask many things in the conference that I left unsaid because we are so new & so small numerically but we are in the beginnings & our opportunities are so vast and important

just now
Mrs Gildersleeve has written
them that we can have
Mrs. Aldrich after April
first. This is cheering.
We received our Santiago
Hospital "extra" after
I return [illegible] from [illegible]
We [illegible] in January,
as [illegible] thank offering
[illegible] has given [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
leaflets concerning this
new Hospital?
Idaho has just experienced
the greatest snow storm
in the history of the weather
Bureau. I hope that
we escape Coast floods
and eastern grippe.
Thanking you for making it
possible for me to go to the
Conference I remain
cordially yours
Mrs Lott, Eva C. Barton

New York, February 8, 1916.

Mrs. B. A. Thaxter,
994 Bryce Ave.,
Portland, Oregon.

My dear Mrs. Thaxter:-

It is my privilege to follow Mrs. Bennett's letter of January 28th, extending to you the grateful greetings of the Women's Board of Home Missions in response to the splendid action of the North Pacific Board.

It gives me pleasure to pass to you for the Women's North Pacific Presbyterian Board of Missions the action which was taken by the Home Board at its meeting February 1st. After Mrs. Bennett had read the letter of January 19th, signed by yourself and five other ladies as a committee of the North Pacific Board, our Board voted "that the chair appoint a committee of which she herself should be a member to receive its overture and express so far as the English language can do so the appreciation of this Board of the wonderful christian spirit shown by the members of the North Pacific Board".

Our Board today received and approved the enclosed paper, which we shall be glad to have you present to your committee and your Board in token of the appreciation of the action of your Board.

Very cordially,

L/S
Enclosure.

New York, February 8, 1916.

— A C T I O N —

-of the-

WOMAN'S BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

In acknowledgement to the

WOMAN'S NORTH PACIFIC PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF MISSIONS,

Of its action conveyed in the communication,
under date of January 19, 1916, and
signed by the following committee:

Katherine Y. Thaxter.	Flora A. Goss.
Alice M. Milligan.	Agnes M. Geary.
M. Louise Bradley.	Carrie L. Hays.

The Woman's Board of Home Missions at their meeting on February 1st, 1916, gratefully recognizing the continuation of the spirit of co-operation manifested at the memorable Chicago Conference, received the communication from the Woman's North Pacific Presbyterian Board of Missions proposing to transfer to the former Board that work for Home Missions in the territory of the Synods of Washington, Oregon and Idaho - the latter organization thereby forming a Board of Foreign Missions only.

The Woman's Board of Home Missions places itself on record as expressing its deep appreciation of the attitude of the women of the Woman's North Pacific Presbyterian Board of Missions and its full realization of the sacrifice and unselfishness and high Christian ideals shown in this action.

The Woman's Board of Home Missions accepts this added responsibility in the same spirit of helpfulness in Christian service and assures the Woman's North Pacific Presbyterian Board of Missions that no effort will be spared to have the details satisfactorily carried out by the officers to whom they are committed.

WOMAN'S NORTH PACIFIC PRESBYTERIAN
BOARD OF MISSIONS
454 ALDER STREET
PORTLAND, ORE.

February 16, 1906.

Mrs F. S. Bennett
President, Woman's Board of Home Missions.
New York.

My dear Mrs Bennett:-

The words of kindness and appreciation that have come to us from you and Mrs Ward and also those contained in the official note from your Board have cheered and encouraged us mightily. Changes to some people mean exhilaration, stimulation, renewed energy, to others they bring depression, lack of zeal and interest. We have had to fight all these as you may imagine. However our Board is one I think they are firmly convinced that we are doing the right thing and are anxious to see it consummated as soon as possible. It is our desire that the

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new relations shall begin with the new fiscal year, April 1st, 1916. To that end we are working. But because we wish that everything should be done right so that no one should ever be able to say that the Executive Committee acted over the heads of its constituency, &c. (or exceeded its powers) we have decided to issue a call for a special meeting of our Board to be held March 21st 1916. We have biennial meetings in our Board and our next one will not occur till the last week in April 1917. Therefore I am now preparing the notice of the special meeting at which this business will be voted upon. This notice will go to all our organizations. Of course we do not expect them to send delegates but they have the opportunity to do so if they desire, and at least they can never say they were not consulted. You understand, of course, it is the observance of the letter of the law, for the change is to be effected anyway, and we are planning to release

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BOARD OF MISSIONS
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the work for home missions
in our territory to you April 1, 1916.

Our Presbyterial meetings all occur in April mostly during the first and second weeks of April and we are planning to have a Board member present at each one of those meetings if it is possible. If you send a representative from your Board, as you suggested, she could attend some, & am sure as we have tried to have as few conflicting dates as possible in a given territory.

We have another hard job on our hands and that is to find a new president. Mrs Milligan resigned yesterday. It is not because of the proposed change as some might think as she has been connected with our Board for 25 years. Her health has not been of the best for the past year and I think she felt herself unequal to the strain of the work involved in the readjustment and the branching out of work proposed. We are very sorry to lose her for her knowledge of

WOMAN'S NORTH PACIFIC PRESBYTERIAN
BOARD OF MISSIONS
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The field and of the work is greater than that of any one else we have in our Board, but we can still have her advice and experience though she steps out of the chair.

As the matter stands you can make your plans and we can make ours for the coming year but the official notice of the change can not go to you till after March 21st. I trust this will be satisfactory to you and the Board

Yours sincerely,
(Mrs B. A.) Katherine G. Thayler
994 Bryce Ave.
Portland,
Oregon.
(Chairman of Committee)

WOMAN'S NORTH PACIFIC PRESBYTERIAN
BOARD OF MISSIONS
454 ALDER STREET
PORTLAND, ORE.

February 28, 1916.

My dear Mrs. Bennett,

I have just received your telegram and am sending you the dates and places of meeting of the presbyterial societies

---

Boise meets at Nampa, Idaho, March 29.30
Kendall " (?) April 4
Twin Falls " the first week in May
(It is impossible for them to put the meeting earlier because of some river which makes transportation impossible earlier than May).

We are not sending any Board officer to Idaho. Mrs Barton is fully informed and having been at the Chicago Conference we felt she could take care of those three presbyteries the two, Kendall and Twin Falls, being very small and weak.

Willamette meets at Salem Oregon, April 5+6
Portland " " Portland April 5

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Pendleton meets at Stanfield, Ore. April 13
Grande Ronde " " Baker, Oregon, April 11
Southern Oregon " " Medford " , April 18-19

Board officers will be at Willamette, Portland, Pendleton, Grande Ronde, (Mrs Goss will go to the two last named)

Bellingham meets at Everett, Wash. April 12
Central Washington " " Parker " April 5
Columbia River " " Centralia √ " April 10, 11
Olympia " " Tacoma √ " April 14
Seattle " - Seattle √ " April 11
Spokane " " Spokane √ " April 4
Walla Walla " " Garfield " April 5
Wenatchee " " Cashmere " April 6

I am going to take in most of the Washington meetings. I will be at Bellingham, Olympia, Seattle, Spokane either Walla Walla and Wenatchee or perhaps both if it is possible. Mrs. Goss goes to Central Washington.

These places and dates are accurate so far as we can get them. As you

WOMAN'S NORTH PACIFIC PRESBYTERIAN
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454 ALDER STREET
PORTLAND, ORE.

May imagine some changes are made at the last moment.

I am enclosing a copy of the letter sent to our societies.

I trust this information is what you desire.

Yours truly,

Katherine Y. Thayer

March 2d, 1916.

Mrs. B. A. Thaxter,
994 Brice Ave.,
Portland, Ore.

My dear Mrs. Thaxter:-

Your letter of February 16th saying that the Women's North Pacific Board Missions desires to turn over to the Woman's Board of Home Missions the Home Mission part of the work on April 1st, 1916, is at hand.

The developments in this matter have been so rapid that I think we all feel ourselves somewhat breathless, but we are trying to adjust ourselves as rapidly as we can, that we may meet the requirements of the situation.

We think it best that we do not release anything to your territory until the official action has been communicated to us, and I am therefore asking whether you will not be good enough to wire me at the close of the meeting of March 21st, giving the results of the Boards' vote? It is our plan to have material ready to mail, but we think it best and fair to hold all of this until you have wired. If it leaves here March 22d, it will get to your territory at the close of the fiscal year.

I was sorry to wire you asking for the dates of Presbyterials, but we have not had them at "156", and it was necessary that we should have some indication, that we might plan for our representatives. We hope to have two, a Field Secretary and an officer from head-

quarters go to that territory. I am anxious that the officer who goes shall go to Portland and talk things over with the officers of the Board of the North Pacific. That may obviate any misunderstandings or difficulties that might arise.

So soon as we hear from you as to the exact dates, we shall be able to plan promptly.

Thank you very much for the copies of the Annual Report that came. They will be a great help to us in planning the work. As I said before, we want to embarrass you as little as possible and to cause as little confusion in the work already established as may be. We shall move as slowly as is consistent with conserving the work of the Cause.

I hope that you will feel quite at liberty to write frankly as to any matters there may come up. If we seem to be overstepping the points accorded us, please say so quite frankly. This is the only way to avoid misunderstandings.

I wish I could make you realize our desire to co-operate in the heartiest and most loving spirit and in every way to show our appreciation.

I am most sorry to know that you are to have the anxiety of seeking for a new president. I trust that you may be lead in this search.

You will be glad, I am sure, to know that the final decisions

of actions at Chicago will probably be released this week. It has taken a long time to get the final word from all the Boards.

Most ~~lovingly~~ yours,

Faithfully

March 2d, 1916.

Mrs. J. H. Barton,
1210 Idaho St.,
Boise, Idaho.

My dear Mrs. Barton:-

Since your letter of February 4th came things have been moving so rapidly that I have hardly known which way to turn and if I undertook to write you a letter I hardly knew what to say. I suppose, however, that the proposition made to the Woman's Board of Home Missions by the North Pacific Board is now no secret. If I am telling secrets, I shall trust you to keep this letter quiet until you have officially been informed. I feel almost as though a miracle had been wrought, and I wish I could in some measure express the appreciation that we feel for the wonderful and broad minded attitude of the Women of the North Pacific Board. I think after our talk in Chicago you knew my position well; that I felt that the present plan of carrying on the work was a little difficult in view of plans in other places, but that I felt the plan under which the North Pacific Board worked had been so long in vogue, that it would be most difficult to alter it and that it might take a very long time to bring this about, even were it proposed. That the report of the women who went to Chicago should have met with such instant response has, as I said above, proven the quality of the women of that Western section. We feel very humble and can only trust that we shall be able in some measure to meet them in the spirit they have shown and

that we may be able to take up the work given to us and push it forward as they have done.

Mrs. Aldrich will go to the Northwest and Mrs. Gildersleeve will probably also go into that territory; the two trying to adjust matters so that they can cover most of the Presbyterials. Were there not matters demanding my attention this Spring I should certainly go out there myself.

You will be interested to know that the final Report of the Chicago Conference will be sent to the Boards tomorrow. There has been much delay in getting in some of the reports and then there has had to be correspondence as to matters that were not clear. As the Committee consisted of Mrs. Berry and myself, and we were a thousand miles apart, that too has been a little complicated, but at last everything is finished and we are able to get them out.

You will find that most of the Standards of Excellence were not accepted at all. So many ~~hints~~ changes were made that they will have to go back for further conference. It is too bad that we could not get them in shape so that they could immediately go out, but I hope that the suggestion of the Committee that a Conference be held next June to finish these matters may become of effect. This Conference might be Central Committee and some women from the Home Board.

Believe me with very cordial good wishes for your work and with renewed expressions of my pleasure in having come to know you officially,

Faithfully yours,

WOMAN'S NORTH PACIFIC PRESBYTERIAN
BOARD OF MISSIONS
454 ALDER STREET
PORTLAND, ORE.

March 10, 1916.

My dear Mrs. Bennett,

In reply to your letter of the 2nd, we shall be most happy to wire you immediately after the close of our meeting March 21st. I hope things have not been pushed too quickly but it was my strong conviction that if it were to be done no good purpose would be served by waiting another year. We have been receiving numerous questions from some of our larger presbyterial societies and are patiently going over the ground for each one of them because education is what they need.

I am most happy to tell you that Mrs Goss has been appointed president to serve out the unexpired term of our last president and

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I hope ~~me~~ will be able to keep her for many years in the office. Mrs Goss has a very open mind and is energetic, politic, tactful and many other desirable things. She took it (the office of president) reluctantly, feeling herself that a younger woman should have been elected. Your humble servant was considered but I felt Mrs Goss should do it I being perfectly willing to aid in any way. We work well together. Then I am, unfortunately, not sure that we shall remain in Portland. My husband was connected with a private school that has been in existence for over twenty-five years, he having been here ten years at the head of the English department. The school is to close its doors in June, the high schools having usurped in large measure its field and the financial depression of the west

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affecting its fortunes also. I am only intruding this personal note to show you how unsettled things are and how in spite of that we are working hard to put things on a permanent basis of usefulness.

I think Mrs Goss would appreciate a personal word from you if you in your busy life have time to do it. Before I left Chicago I sat down and wrote a long letter to Mrs Goss telling her my feelings about our Board and its organization. I wrote it in fear and trembling and kept it a week before sending it, because I knew how the old members of the Board felt. Before I reached home, I received a letter from Mrs Goss telling me how glad she was that I had written that way and her personal feelings on the matter. With her support we were enabled to go ahead. So I feel that with

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her in charge we can really plan wisely and well and you can rest assured that we will help in every way we can.

I feel I owe you an apology for writing at such length but I wanted you to love Mrs Goss as we all do. I know you have known her for some time but I didn't know that you knew what a real power she is in our Board work and I felt if you did know you would feel as we do, entirely satisfied with regard to any future plans.

Cordially yours,
Katherine G. Thayler

March 13, 1916.

Mrs. B. A. Thaxter,
994 Bryce Ave.,
Portland, Oregon.

My dear Mrs. Thaxter:

Life has been so strenuous lately that I have not been able to acknowledge your letter of February 28th., sending the information regarding the presbyterial meetings in your territory. We were very glad to have them and find that we will be able to cover all in Oregon, all but two - Central Washington and Wenatchee - in Washington, but only one - Boise in Idaho.

Mrs. Gildersleeve will go out leaving here March 20th, and Mrs. Aldrich will be there about April 1st. The dates have worked out much better than we dared to hope they would. Mrs. Gildersleeve is planning to meet some of the officers of those presbyterials where no one from our Board can be with them at the time of the meeting. She will, of course see you both at Portland and at some of the Washington meetings. Please ask her any questions and feel that she is our representative in adjusting the matters in our new territory.

With every good wish for your continued success, believe me that I am,

Most cordially yours,

B/D

WOMAN'S NORTH PACIFIC
PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF MISSIONS
454 Alder Street,
Portland, Oregon.

1917 File
Permanent

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Please read all of this to your society
and preserve for reference.

The President of the Woman's North Pacific Presbyterian Board of Missions, at the request of the Executive Committee of that body, issues a call for a special meeting of Board members to be held March 21st, 1916, to discuss and vote on an important matter of business that cannot be held over till the biennial meeting, April 1917.

The item of business to be voted upon is a recommendation from the Executive Committee that steps be immediately taken to hand over to the direct care of the Woman's Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, the work for Home Missions in our territory viz. the three states of Oregon, Washington and Idaho. To do this work it will organize synodical societies in these three states to which presbyterial societies will report home mission work and from which they will receive instructions in home mission work, instead of from the Woman's North Pacific Board of Missions as heretofore, the Woman's North Pacific Board thus becoming a Board for foreign missions only and directing as in the past all the work for foreign missions in our territory.

The reasons for this change have been very carefully considered by the Executive Committee and are here given for your information:

1. All parts of the United States are organized synodically for Home Missions and report directly to the Woman's Board of Home Missions, except the three states that constitute our territory. For the sake of uniformity it seems best that we fall in line.

2. The growth of the work demands that more workers be put in the field to help out the many small and isolated societies in our territory. The Woman's Board of Home Missions has the equipment, the machinery, and the secretaries to do this work. For the sake of efficiency it seems best that we should give the work into their hands.

The change would not affect local organizations in any way. They are all joint organizations and will pursue the same course under which they are organized, giving equal attention to both home and foreign missions. Presbyterial societies would be affected in only one particular. A treasurer to receive and remit home mission funds to the Woman's Board of Home Missions must be provided for as well as one to handle foreign mission funds which would be sent as before to the North Pacific Board.

Synodical societies would be formed where the Home Board sees fit to do so. For home mission work presbyterial officers would receive instructions from synodical officers who would receive it from headquarters, viz. the Woman's Board of Home Missions in New York City. For foreign mission work instructions would come as before from the North Pacific Board, through presbyterial officers, to local societies.

This proposed change has been initiated in the North Pacific Board which for twenty-eight years has been a joint Board working for both Home and Foreign Missions. At the time of its organization joint work seemed the only feasible thing. The North Pacific Board still feels that missions is one cause. The change proposed denotes no division of interests; it is simply a division of executive responsibility. The Woman's Board of Home Missions fully agrees with the plan and is willing to accept the responsibility for the three states.

No other item of business will be transacted at this meeting. A majority vote will carry it. Members of the North Pacific Board are (1) the members of the Executive Committee (which includes the officers of the Board, chairman of each standing committee, and presidents of presbyterial societies); (2) Presbyterial officers; (3) life members; (4) honorary life members; (5) delegates. Each auxiliary society - Presbyterial, Woman's, Westminster Guild, Christian Endeavor, Juniors, and Bands are entitled to send two delegates to this meeting.

The meeting will be held March 21st, 1916, at 2.30 P. M. in the First Presbyterian Church, Portland, Oregon. If you intend to send delegates, please notify the undersigned.

(Mrs. B. A.) Katherine Y. Thaxter,

Recording Secretary,
994 Bryce Avenue,
Portland, Oregon.

Copy of Telegram received March 22, 1916,
from(Mrs) Katherine Y. Thaxter.
Portland, Oregon.

"Mrs. F. S. Bennett,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

The Woman's North Padific Presbyterian Board of Missions today voted unanimously to give the Home Mission Work formerly conducted by them into the direct care of the Woman's Board of Home Missions.

(Signed) Katherine Y. Thaxter."

March 28, 1916.

Mrs. B. A. Thaxter,
994 Bryce Avenue,
Portland, Oregon.

The Woman's Board of Home Missions in session today has received your telegram announcing action of North Pacific Board March twenty first, and reaffirms its expressions of appreciation and its acceptance of this added responsibility and its pledge of service contained in February action already in your hands.

(Signed) Edith Grier Long.
General Secretary.

Paid.

Reorganization